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Judicial Proceedings Committee

Executive Nominations Committee

Joint Committees

Administrative, Executive, and
Legislative Review

Children, Youth, and Families

Senate Chair
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Baltimore County Senate Delegation

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Testimony for SB 583
Public Safety – Law Enforcement Agencies
Acquisition and Use of Surveillance Technology
Before the Judicial Proceedings Committee
On March 8, 2023

Good afternoon Chair Smith, members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee,

In our ever-moving technology laden world, the evolution and availability of certain software or mechanisms travels faster than the reveal of the dangers or consequences that may occur because of it. Technology with limitations, is technology that can have a positive impact on society. Senate Bill 583 provides the basis for limiting police use of surveillance technology.

Senate Bill 583 establishes a board that will have the authority to authorize the purchase, use, or continued use of surveillance technology by law enforcement agencies. The board would also hold quarterly meetings with the head of each law enforcement agency within the State to review proposed surveillance impact reports, receive public input about proposed surveillance technologies, review law enforcement annual reports, and make required reports.

Senate Bill 583 includes the right of any person who has been harmed by surveillance technology to institute proceeding for injunctive relief and that they will be entitled to damages of \$100 per day for each day of the violation.

I ask for a favorable report on Senate Bill 583.